

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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63

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 PA-02 USIA-15 OES-06 MMO-04 /041 W

----- 101998

R 200932Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9336

UNCLAS TOKYO 7499

INFO CU/EA, OES

FOR CU/BICENTENNIAL OFFICE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, OEXC, JA

SUBJECT: BICENTENNIAL SUPPORT

CHIBA NEWS, CHIBA PREFECTURAL NEWSPAPER, HAS APPROACHED POST WITH REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN BICENTENNIAL PROJECT. IT IS AN UNUSUAL ONE, AND POST HAS SUGGESTED THAT NO FURTHER ACTION BE TAKEN UNTIL CLEARANCE IS RECEIVED FROM WASHINGTON. BACKGROUND: IN 1944-45 JAPANESE LAUNCHED BALLOON BOMBING ATTACK ON U.S., USING JAPANESE PAPER BALLOONS. BALLOONS WERE LAUNCHED FROM CHIBA BEACH. CHIBA TIMES AS BICENTENNIAL EVENT, WOULD LIKE TO LAUNCH SINGLE IDENTICAL BALLOON BEARING MESSAGES OF GOOD WILL FOR PRESIDENT FORD AND PEOPLE OF UNITED STATES FROM SAME BEACH. BALLOON WOULD ALSO CARRY RADIO BEACON FOR MONITORING, AND JAPANESE PLANTS AS GIFTS FOR FINDER OF BALLOON. POST HAS CHECKED WITH AGATT, AND DETERMINED THAT CERTAIN PLANTS CAN BE CARRIED. TTKYO FAA OFFICE SAYS THAT BALLOON FLIGHT SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS, BUT NOT SURE EXACTLY WHAT HAS TO BE DONE. FLIGHT PLAN CALLS FOR USE OF JET STREAM AT 45,000 FEET. PROJECT BEING FINANCED ENTIRELY BY CHIBA NEWS, WITH SUPPORT FROM TOKYO UNIV. AERONAUTICAL AND SPACE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT, AND JAPAN METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY. SOME MINOR SCIENTIFIC STUDIES WILL ALSO BE PERFORMED. ACTION REQUESTED: OBTAIN CLEARANCE, IF POSSIBLE, FROM FAA FOR BALLOON ENTRY INTO U.S. AIRSPACE; DETERMINE UNCLASSIFIED

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RESTRICTIONS, IF ANY, ON USE OF RADIO BEACON TO MONITOR

BALLOONFLIGHT; DETERMINE WHATEVER OTHER ACTIONS SHOULD  
BE TAKEN, IF ANY. ADVISE POST ON FEASIBILITY OF  
PROJECT ASAP SO ENERGIES CAN BE DIVERTED, IF NECESSARY.  
HODGSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), FLIGHT CLEARANCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 MAY 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976TOKYO07499  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760196-0465  
**From:** TOKYO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760531/aaaabafg.tel  
**Line Count:** 66  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION CU  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 02 JUL 2004  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BICENTENNIAL SUPPORT CHIBA NEWS, CHIBA PREFECTURAL NEWSPAPER, HAS APPROACHED POST  
**TAGS:** SCUL, OEXC, EAIR, JA, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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